MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) to (c) A Synthetic Athletic Track has already been provided at Nehru Stadium, Madras with Central assistance of Rs. 50.00 lakhs sanctioned in March, 1993. The laying of the track has been completed.

Opening up of a Centre at Madras

2339. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to start/open a Centre at Madras on the line of Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports or Lakshmibai National College of Physical Education in close cooperation with the State Sports Development Board, set up recently in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The present centres are catering to the current needs and there is no proposal for opening a new centre in Tamil Nadu.

Youth Hostels in Tamil Nadu

2340. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) the number of youth hostels in Tamil Nadu;

(b) what is the total financial allocation and amount spent so far on the construction of youth hostel in Trichi (Tamil Nadu) and by when the work is likely to be completed;

(c) whether Government propose to construct a youth hostel in Madurai (Tamil Nadu) in the current year; and

(d) if so the details thereof and if not, by when it is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) Government has approved 5 Youth Hostels in the State of Tamil Nadu out of which two are functioning.

(b) Government has approved estimates amounting to Rs. 33,29,056 for construction of Youth Hostel at Trichy out of which a sum of Rs. 30.00 lakhs has already been sanctioned. The construction of Youth Hostel is likely to be completed before the end of the financial year.

(c) and (d) A Youth Hostel at Madurai is already functional.

National Service Scheme in Tamil Nadu

2341. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of volunteers deployed under the 'National Service Volunteer Scheme' in the country and especially in Tamil Nadu during the year as against the previous year; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to make this system more useful so as to encourage participation by large volunteers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) Under the National Service Volunteer Scheme, 3000 volunteers are deployed in the country every year. During 1992-93, 206 volunteers were deployed in Tamil Nadu whereas for 1993-94 (till date), the figure is 207.

(b) The Government is contemplating increasing the outlay under this Scheme from the next year so as to encourage the participation of larger number of volunteers. Separately, the stipend and travelling allowance rates for the volunteers have been enhanced recently, raising the expenditure per volunteer per year to Rs. 8500 from Rs. 5500.